



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 /001 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1941

S E C R E T BAGHDAD 0476

NODIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, IZ, US
SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITY IN IRAQ

25X1

2. NO COUNTRY IN THE MIDDLE EAST IS MORE PARANOID THAN IRAQ ABOUT INTERFERENCE IN ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND REAL AND IMAGINED ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES. [REDACTED] THE REASONS FOR THIS ARE FOUND IN RECENT IRAQI HISTORY AND WELL KNOWN TO YOU. SECONDLY, IRAQ HAS PROBABLY MOST EFFECTIVE AND OMNIPRESENT INTELLIGENCE SERVICES OF ANY ARAB COUNTRY AND THEY ARE ANXIOUS TO JUSTIFY THEIR SPECIAL POWER BY UNCOVERING FOREIGN INTERFERENCE, AGAIN REAL OR IMAGINED. IN ADDITION, THEY ALMOST CERTAINLY HAVE INTELLIGENCE EXCHANGES WITH THE KGB AND OTHER COMMUNIST SERVICES. NOR DO I RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF JOINT OPERATIONS WHERE SOVIET-IRAQI INTELLIGENCE SERVICES OBJECTIVES COINCIDE.

25X1

3. I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT SOVIET EMBASSY AND ICP OFFICIALS
SECRET

25X1

State Dept. review completed

MORI/CDF per C02410819

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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SECRET

PAGE 02 BAGHDA 00476 051220Z

HAVE WARNED THE GOI ABOUT THE DANGER OF PERMITTING LARGE
NUMBER OF AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN TO COME TO IRAQ

25X1

THE SOVIETS WOULD LIKE
NOTHING BETTER THAN TO SEE THIS PREDICTION COME TRUE AND
CAN BE COUNTED ON TO DO THEIR BEST TO SEE THAT IT DOES, EITHER
THROUGH INFORMING IRAQIS OF SUCH INDIVIDUALS OR BY PLANTING
DAMAGING INFORMATION. SHOULD AN INCIDENT TAKE PLACE, IT WOULD
HAVE DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES FOR OUR FLOURISHING
COMMERCIAL RELATIONS AND IRAQ'S CURRENT LIBERAL VISA POLICY
TOWARD AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN. REGIME WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY
TAKE DRASTIC MEASURES AGAINST US.

4. I RECOGNIZE THAT THIS MAY SOUND AS IF I TOO AM BECOMING
PARANOID, BUT I AM ALREADY AWARE OF ONE COMPANY THAT HAS
VISITED IRAQ WHICH HAD LINKS WITH U.S. NAVY INTELLIGENCE.

5. I RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT MAKE CLEAR TO ALL USG
INTELLIGENCE SERVICES THAT IRAQ IS OFF LIMITS FOR THIS
TYPE OF ACTIVITY. THE RISK TO LEGITIMATE U.S. COMMERCIAL
AND OTHER INTERESTS IS TOO GREAT FOR ANY OPERATIONS DIRECTED
AT OTHER THAN A TARGET OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO THE U.S. . I
DO NOT KNOW OF ANY SUSPECTED TARGET IN IRAQ AT THIS TIME
WHICH COULD JUSTIFY TAKING THIS RISK.

25X1

6. ALTHOUGH I HAVE CLASSIFIED THIS MESSAGE AS NODIS I OF
COURSE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO IT BEING GIVEN TO OTHER
AGENCIES.
LOWRIE

SECRET

NODIS
NODIS
NODIS
NODIS